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Exclusive Interview with Cybersecurity Expert Samit Hota

ABC News: Samit, thank you for joining us today. Can you start by telling us a bit about your background?

Samit Hota: Of course. I was born in 2001 in Odisha and raised in Mayurbhanj in a Hindu family. Since childhood, I've always been very attracted to technology and the internet. I got my first real exposure to the internet when I was in class 7.

ABC News: What was the turning point for you in terms of your interest in technology?

Samit Hota: The turning point was when my parents wouldn't allow me to buy costly internet packs. To overcome that, I learned hacking and started using free internet. This unconventional approach fueled my passion for technology and set the stage for my future in cybersecurity and later I just didn't stopped and continued learning.

ABC News: That's quite an unusual start. How did this interest develop into a career in cybersecurity?

Samit Hota: Initially, my interest in hacking was driven by necessity then became a source of fun like you know all those govt. websites and data etc things, but it quickly turned into a passion. I realized that understanding the vulnerabilities in systems could help me protect them. It wasn't just about bypassing restrictions; it was about understanding how things work and ensuring they are secure.

ABC News: Did you face any challenges during your journey?

Samit Hota: Absolutely. There were times when I was misunderstood and faced criticism, especially for my unconventional methods. But I stayed focused on my goal. I continued to learn and evolve,

which eventually led me to work with various organizations, including contributing significantly to the big corporates and institutions.

ABC News: Can you tell us more about your work with the Odisha Police CID CB?

Samit Hota: wait what? I have never claimed that. Although It was completely voluntarily and working with the Odisha Police CID CB was a major breakthrough in my career. My unique skills in understanding cybercriminal psychology and deciphering cryptographic patterns helped the team to track criminals' digital footprints. This collaboration enabled us to dismantle several cybercrime networks and prosecute many criminals.

ABC News: It sounds like your work had a significant impact. How do you view your role in cybersecurity now?

Samit Hota: My role in cybersecurity is not just about responding to threats but also about creating effective strategies to prevent them. This includes developing smart search tools, educating the public, and continuously staying updated with the latest trends in cybersecurity. I want to use my skills to make the internet a safer place for everyone.

ABC News: This is the only good side you are speaking about. What about that dark side you are trying to hide?

Samit Hota: Haha. No no I don’t think there is any dark side?

ABC News: Then who is accountable for the increased cyber attacks, and all that allegations? Why did you left suddenly?

Samit Hota: Look, people will spread rumor in absence but everyone should ignore such rumors. And we should focus on building a better safe cyberspace for future with all the aspiring cybersecurity enthusiasts.

ABC News: What advice would you give to aspiring cybersecurity experts?

Samit Hota: My advice would be to stay curious and never stop learning. The digital landscape is always changing, and to stay ahead of cyber threats, one must keep learning and adapting. It’s also important to understand the ethical implications of your work and to use your skills for good.

ABC News: Finally, what's next for you? What are your future plans?

Samit Hota: I want to continue making a positive impact in the field of cybersecurity. There's still so much to do, and I believe we can create a safer digital world together. I plan to keep working on new projects, collaborating with other experts, and sharing my knowledge to help others stay safe online.

ABC News: Thank you, Samit, for sharing your story with us. Your journey is truly inspiring.

Samit Hota: Thank you for having me. It's been a pleasure.